Amendments to the Specification:

Kindly amend the specification as follows:

On page 3, replace the last full paragraph with the following:

Figure 1 is a cross-sectional view of a pump assembly showing a return path and filter assembly of a preferred embodiment according to the present invention.

On page 5, replace the last paragraph beginning on line 27 and continuing on page 6 (lines 1-13) with the following:

Besides eliminating the generation of particles, the pump assembly 100 of the present invention has other inventive features. The pump shaft 150 is supported by a first corrosion resistant bearing 140 and a second corrosion resistant bearing 141. The bearings 140 and 141 can be ceramic bearings, hybrid bearings, full complement bearings, foil journal bearings, or magnetic bearings. The bearings 140 and 141 can be made of silicon nitride balls combined with bearing races made of Cronidur® 30. Cronidur® 30 is a corrosion resistant metal alloy from Barden Bearings. Cronidur® 30 is a martensitic through-hardened steel with mass percentage 0.31 mass percent carbon, 0.38 mass percent nitrogen, 0.55 mass percent Silicon, and 15.2 mass percent Chromium. The use of silicon nitride combined with bearing races made of Cronidur® produces bearings that can operate at high speeds and supercritical temperatures and pressure. These materials offer superb corrosion and wear resistance. The bearings 140 and 141 are non-lubricated in the sense that no oil or grease lubrication is required, although a portion of the fluid being pumped can be diverted to provide lubrication and cooling to the bearings. Thus, there can be no contamination of the fluid. The bearings 140 and 141 also reduce particle generation since wear particles generated by abrasive wear are not present in ceramic (silicon nitride) hybrids. The savings in reduced maintenance costs can be significant.

On page 6, replace the last full paragraph (lines 20-25) with the following:

The path of the diverted fluid defines the alternative flow path. Starting at 210A, the fluid flows in the gap between the outer edge of impeller 120 and the inner pump housing 105,

along the back face of the impeller 120, and along the impeller shaft to the bearing 140. Next the fluid flows through and cools the bearing 140. Following the path indicated by arrow 210B, the fluid flows along the pump shaft. The fluid then flows in the space defined between the rotor 160 and the stator 170 as shown by arrow 210C. After which, the fluid follows the path, as shown by arrow 210D, along the pump shaft 150 and through and cooling the bearing 141. The arrow 210E shows the exit path for the fluid at the outlet passage 200 ~~The diverted fluid can pass into the motor section 102 after having cooled the first bearing 140. From the motor section 102 the diverted fluid cools the second bearing 141 and passes through an outlet passage 200~~ in the motor section 102 and to an outer flow path 240~~(not shown)~~. The fluid leaving the outlet passage 200 may have picked up particles generated in the motor section 102. The diverted fluid preferably passes through a filter and/or heat exchanger 230 in the outer flow path 240~~(not shown)~~ before returning back to the pump inlet 110.